A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING

SETTLEMENT OF INTERCONNECTED

PACKET-SWITCHED NETWORKS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An approach for supporting settlement of network usage associated with multiple network service providers is disclosed. A settlement system includes a processor that determines a settlement agreement among the network service providers. The settlement agreement specifies rate information associated with traffic exchange among the corresponding networks of the network service providers. A traffic monitor measures source traffic statistics, which is stored in a settlement database. Additionally, the settlement database stores the settlement agreement. The processor computes settlement information based upon the stored traffic statistics; the settlement information includes usage cost differential information for reconciliation of network usage among the various networks.